



PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

---

NEW YORK, 7 DECEMBER 2011

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**STATEMENT BY STEFAN BARRIGA, MINISTER, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**FIFTH HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. President,

The Secretary-General's Report on Innovative Mechanisms of Financing for Development<sup>1</sup> underlines that new resources are needed to complement traditional ODA – in particular in the areas of health as well as climate change and environment. In this context, the Liechtenstein Government agreed in January 2010 to the principles of the Copenhagen Accord as a guideline for the development of a successor protocol to Kyoto. Consequently, the Liechtenstein Parliament in November 2010 agreed to additional climate seed funding for the years 2011 and 2012. This additional contribution complements Liechtenstein's ODA and will support measures for combating and adjusting to damaging climate effects in developing countries.

Besides additional or complementary resources, the achievement of the international ODA target of 0.7 percent of gross national income (GNI) must remain at the centre of our efforts. International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development is a central pillar of Liechtenstein's foreign policy and the Liechtenstein Government has repeatedly underscored its commitment to achieving the target of 0.7 percent by 2015. According to GNI projections, it is very likely that Liechtenstein has achieved 0.6 percent of GNI for ODA in 2010. We are committed to using our – in absolute terms – modest resources to make a concrete and visible contribution to sustainable development. Our policy is focusing on regions that are neglected or forgotten and on areas where Liechtenstein has special expertise. I would like to emphasize in particular that Liechtenstein's international development cooperation policy has had a special focus on Least Developed Countries throughout the MDG-campaign. In 2010 we have

---

<sup>1</sup> A/66/334

already surpassed the internationally agreed development goal to allocate 0.2 percent of GNI for ODA to the development cooperation with Least Developed Countries.

Mr. President,

The Government of Liechtenstein has committed itself to implementing internationally recognized standards of transparency and exchange of information with the "Liechtenstein Declaration" in 2009. Through this declaration, we have reaffirmed our commitment to international cooperation on tax matters on the basis of internationally agreed standards. We have thus concluded numerous tax information exchange agreements and double taxation agreements and are determined to continue to engage with our partners worldwide in this respect. In this regard we would like to point out the importance of transparency in international regulation processes as an indispensable element for the equal participation of all States and the implementation of the principle of level playing field. Tax information exchange agreements and, in particular, double taxation agreements are in our view instruments to strengthen the economic cooperation between two states, from which both countries mutually benefit.

Mr. President,

Illicit financial outflows are one of the greatest obstacles to development. In our view capacity building to effectively fight corruption, money laundering and illicit financial outflows on the one side and measures for promoting good governance on the other side have great potential within innovative mechanisms of financing for development. Liechtenstein supports measures for promoting good governance such as the anti-corruption programme of the UN Development Programme. Additionally, we closely cooperate with the Global Programme against Money-Laundering. Besides financial contributions, we have made expertise directly available to this and other programmes over the past years as both our Financial Intelligence Unit and the Office of the Public Prosecutor have participated numerous times as experts in relevant training programmes for developing countries. On the same topic, Liechtenstein gives financial support to the Basel Institute on Governance, a nongovernmental organization that is a pioneer in its field, in particular through its International Centre for Asset Recovery (ICAR). The centre offers training and capacity-building for developing countries in their efforts to recover stolen assets.

Mr. President,

Liechtenstein remains committed to the achievement of the international ODA target. Additionally, we are open for new and additional resource channels to complement traditional ODA.

I thank you.